

THE QUEEN OF SNOWS

intelligence of the spiritual world
who pre-
sides over those souls who are
sufficiently
evolved to have reached the process
of involu-
tion, who tread the return path
back to him.
So Shiva, the god of the yogi, of the
ascetic,
of those who, having seen the
futility of all
earthly desire, renounce it with its
turmoil.
They only know the meaning of
peace. And
yet in one aspect Mahadeva is
also the
destroyer. He has his home in the
burning
ground. Strange place for the
mightiest to
dwell ! But all the lower nature has
to be
consumed before Shiva can bring
peace. He
can only give his gifts to one who for
the sake
of their joy has endured the
crucifixion of all
lower things. One of his gifts is
the third
eye, that which is represented by
the white
mark on the forehead of all Shivite
devotees,
so that he who once receives this
gift of Shiva
is never more limited in vision by
physical
sight. With extended seeing comes
know-
ledge of the justice of all things, of
the work-
ing of the Law, and that brings
peace to the

soul. So in the picture of Shiva used
by his
worshippers he is represented to us as
an ascetic,
sitting in contemplation before a
background
of the eternal snows. Those
travellers who